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## MR. LLOYD GEORGE--A PENPICTURE

### A Star Performer in the Commons

#### A GENIUS UNCONFINED

Mr. Lloyd George, who has recently come into lime-light by offering to steer the "ship of State" in the present emergency if he were called on to do so, has been a star performer in the Mother of Parliaments for the last fifty years. The following penpicture gives an intimate portrayal of the mental make-up of that G. O. M. of the British House of Commons.

THE House of Commons should make the most of Mr. Lloyd George while it has got him, and everything in his appearance, the rosy complexion and the still bustling step suggests that it will have him for a good deal longer than fifty years, astonishing span though that is.

There will never be another Lloyd George. It is quite easy to think of other Neville Chamberlains. One can also imagine other Baldwins, while other Ramsay MacDonalds are our certain portion—we breed many of them. But the mould was broken that made Lloyd George. He is genius unconfined. You can describe the accidents of his genius, his energy, his almost mediumistic insight, his fundamental quality of soul, the quality that springs those happy similitudes such as "kittens in the cream jug", to describe Sir Herbert Samuel and Sir Archibald Sinclair enjoying office in the first National Government; you can do all that, but you still have not got him complete. Far from it (writes the Political Correspondent of the *Manchester Guardian*)

#### True to Himself

He has always been utterly true to himself, which is, perhaps only another definition of genius. But this may illustrate what one means. He arrived on the front bench a stranger to the class and the tradition that has given us all but two of our Prime Ministers. Neither public school nor university had had any

hand in his making, and some of his colleagues, larger in learning and more contracted in soul, have referred both his success and his weakness, which were each shabby in their eyes, to the fact that he had not had their intellectual and social discipline. Now, Ramsay Mac Donald's antecedents were on all fours with Mr. Lloyd George's, but it was a life-long mortification to him that he had missed these things. Lloyd George has never shown any such regret, nor, on the other hand, has he exhibited an inverted pride in his deprivations. He has just lived completely unconscious that it mattered, and it did not, he being what he is and what Mac Donald was not, a genius obeying his own laws. "He has read nothing and understands everything," Clemenceau said of him. What a tribute to intuitive genius! And still another tribute; this to his witchery. "He can talk a bird out of a tree." So said Mr. Churchill, who also discovered to his everlasting admiration the "unquailing eye" that faced the Cabinet in the darkest hours of the German submarine campaign in 1917. His dauntless courage, then, must always be remembered.

#### An Artist in Speech

He has been one of the greatest artists in speech the House of Commons has had. Not a great orator; great oratory must be touched with moral passion. This Mr. Lloyd George has not been able to command. Not the awful outstretched arm of Gladstone, but the descriptive gestures that lie somewhere between the actor and the revivalist may suggest the lighter oratorical armament one has in mind. A great power of satire served by a most uncommon faculty of thinking in pictures that stamp his criticisms on the visual eye—that has been one of the great sources of his

(Continued on Page 4)

## THE SLEEP OF THE JUST

### Notable Examples in History

SOME months ago, there were reports of a Marwari millionaire of Calcutta, afflicted by insomnia, that dread disease which prevents a man from sleeping. Hundreds of people wrote in suggesting cures for this malady, but, if reports are correct, the unfortunate millionaire, who can probably buy most things he desires, is still unable to purchase the peace of sleep.

Sleep, indeed, is among the most precious attributes a man can possess. Napoleon, it was said, was among the fortunate few who could sleep whenever he chose, and every school-boy knows that the great Emperor often snatched a few moments' rest even during an important battle while on horse-back. But sleep is often a will-o'-the-wisp, which eludes capture and which many famous men and women have wooed in vain. Often its lack has led to tragedy and ended careers full of promise.

Insomnia, in fact, is the grave of statesmen. The late Lord Rosebery was a victim of this malady and often, throughout the night, had his coachman drive him round and round the great park in which his mansion stood vainly attempting to sleep.

Lack of sleep undermines judgement, temper and resolution. In time, it eats into the most iron constitution and hastens decay.

Mr. Lloyd George, like Napoleon, is credited with the power of being able to sleep at will. During the last war, it is said, no matter how great the pressure on him, he could always break off and draw fresh reserves of vigour from a few moments of sleep. Sir Austen Chamberlain describes a journey with him and others to Paris just after the armistice. For some time, conversation in the carriage was animated, when all of a sudden, Lloyd George said: "And now I'm going to have a nap." Sir Austen relates: "He was as-

leep almost before we left the compartment."

Gladstone also was a good sleeper. He, characteristically enough, rationed his sleep to seven hours. "I hate getting up in the morning," he used to say, "and I hate the same every morning. But one can do everything by habit and, when I have had my seven hours, my habit is to get up." Gladstone had a pigeonhole mind and to induce sleep he always dismissed the thought of politics before going to bed.

Unlike Gladstone, who never read before taking to his bed, the late Lord Oxford, better known as Mr. Asquith, who was premier at the beginning of the last war, always read for two solid hours before retiring. This he did whatever the hour at which he gained his respite and the books he chose were always far removed from current controversies of the day.

The great Pitt was a sound sleeper. There is a story told that he was once roused from his sleep by a foreign office messenger with an important dispatch. Pitt read the document and dictated the reply. The messenger left, but before he had gone down the street, he recollected that he had forgotten to ask the Prime Minister a certain important question. Turning back, he found that the great Pitt was already fast asleep.

A man, who, throughout his life, was tortured by lack of sleep, was the late Lord Curzon. Throughout his Viceroyalty, which was, perhaps, the most brilliant chapter in his crowded life, he suffered from terrible insomnia, yet continued to carry on his work with magnificent perseverance. Rosebery, of whom mention has been made, rarely slept more than four hours when Prime Minister, and, on his resignation, when pressed to return to office, revealed in a letter that his horror of keeping awake prevented him from accepting further responsibility.

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## Hindu Organ.

MONDAY, MAY 13, 1940.

### GERMANY AND SMALL STATES

IN NOTHING DOES NAZI ideology present so grim a contrast to the Allied ideology as in their respective attitudes towards neutral states. While the Allies have shown scrupulous regard for the rights and independence of these states, to Nazi Germany expediency alone counts. No sanctity of treaties, of international good faith, or of the plighted word, no respect for the rights of neutrality can deter Hitler from attacking a nation, if such a course will further his design of world domination. When Finland appealed for military aid, the Allies requested the Scandinavian countries to allow a free passage to their forces through their territories. But as the latter under German pressure objected to the proposal, the Allies desisted from their purpose rather than violate the neutrality of Scandinavia. Again the sowing of mines in Norwegian territorial waters was only a technical breach of neutrality. Both in the last war and in the present a good deal of leakage of the Allied blockade took place owing to the use of these waters by German merchant shipping and naval craft. If the blockade was to be effective the mines had to be sown. Having sown the mines, the Allies had got ready a respectable force ready to land in Norway the moment Germany violated the neutrality of Norway. It was only their scrupulous respect for neutrality that stood in the way of their forestalling Germany. If the Allies had done so, the Norwegian campaign would by now have a different tale to tell. Ribbentrop's special pleading becomes both knavish and dishonest.

HITLER found that a successful attack on France and Britain was impossible without the occupation of Belgium and Holland. So he invented the story of an Allied design on these states, and brazenly accused them of not strictly observing neutrality, although the fact is known to all the world that these two countries have done nothing to offend HITLER. Necessity is the tyrant's plea. But Hitler does not merely plead necessity but makes a pretence of wrong suffered or likely to be suffered. This treacherous invasion of the Netherlands without a reasonable ultimatum, without a declaration of war, in the small hours of the morning when the victims

least expected it, is of a piece with Hitler's international morality all along. The same thing happened to Poland, Denmark and Norway. Here, as in Norway, the Allies found themselves in a delicate situation. They knew full well the blow was coming, though they did not know that it would fall so soon.

They even suggested that these neutral nations should enter into military talks with the Allies so that effective assistance might be rendered in time. But these states fought shy of the suggestion for fear of Germany. The result is that the initiative here also has passed as usual into German hands. Hitler has forestalled the Allies and in the case of Holland Allied help may come too late.

The Allied forces are already in Belgium and this country has once again become the cock-pit of Europe. For several months or even longer the brunt of the encounter will be fought in Belgium. This time the Allies have shown a promptness and energy which bespeak that they will be able to stem the tide of German invasion and even roll it across the German frontier. The Norwegian debacle has been a blessing in disguise. It has awakened France and Britain from a false sense of security and vacillation to the magnitude of the peril. The reconstruction of the British cabinet under the leadership of Mr. CHURCHILL is a pointer to a vigorous prosecution of the war, to the wresting of the initiative from the enemy in the near future.

### J. H. C. Jubilee Celebrations

**THE Golden Jubilee Celebrations of the Jaffna Hindu College commences to-day with a Special Pooja at the Bairava Temple and lunch at the College Boating to Old Boys and well-wishers of the College by the Board of Directors.**

The All-Ceylon Industrial Rally and Carnival organised in connection with the above celebrations will begin tomorrow and will continue for a week. Owing to the unavoidable absence of His Excellency the Governor, Mr. M. Prasad, Government Agent, N. P., will declare open the Exhibition tomorrow at 3-30 p.m.

### French Cabinet Changes

Paris, Friday.

It is officially announced that M. Reynaud has reconstructed his Cabinet, taking into it the representatives of all the political parties.

M. Louis Marin, a former Minister and President of the Republican Federation, and M. Ybarne-garay, Vice-President of the French Social Party, have entered the Government in the capacity of Ministers of State and will be members of the War Cabinet.

## WEEK BY WEEK

BY MAN ABOUT TOWN

Tomorrow witnesses the Hindus of Ceylon making history in the field of Education. Fifty years ago history was written when a band of selfless men started the Jaffna Hindu College on a small scale. Today this institution is one of the leading Colleges in Ceylon playing an important role in the national life of the country. This is perhaps the greatest monument in gold for the services of the great Navalar in the cause of Hinduism by a grateful people. May this College grow from strength to strength and firmly stand for the ideals that inspired its founders.

### The Carnival

Jaffna goes gay during this week. The All Ceylon Industrial Rally and Carnival organised in connection with the Golden Jubilee Celebrations of the Hindu College will be, from what one can see, one of the greatest shows ever organised in Ceylon. This local Wembley compares very favourably with the other shows held in the Island. It comprises the Industrial, Agricultural, Art and Educational sections. The Amusement section is in capable hands and visitors to the Exhibition are bound to enjoy themselves.

### The Right Man

Mr. Winston Churchill is now the Prime Minister of England. At the age of sixty-six, he is at the head of a nation fighting the greatest war the world has ever seen. The British nation has full confidence in him and he is the man of the hour. A man of imagination and initiative there is no doubt that Churchill will put more drive and vigour in the successful prosecution of the war.

### The New Aggression

A blitzkrieg on Holland, Belgium and Luxembourg has been attempted by Hitler. But will this adventure be a lightning one? The formidable Allied forces have gone to meet that of Hitler. The real war has started and it may be that the whole world might be involved in it.

### What Will Italy Do?

Italy's attitude is still bellicose and her boasts and outbursts still continue. But will she actually enter the war? The odds are against her joining Germany. Economically she is weak. She lacks in raw materials and imports 75 per cent of her war materials, of which Germany is already short. But this is not her only weakness.

The passes through the Alps are like the sticks of a fan. Invading French troops would only have to keep on marching to find themselves conveniently massed on the plains of Lombardy within easy reach of Turin and Milan. On the other hand Italian troops using the same passes would be drawn further and further apart as they entered France and would find themselves in hilly country where each force could be dealt with separately by France. Again the so-called Duce's lake is entirely in the hands of the British.

From Gibraltar to Suez Canal, Britain can control Italian shipping and would strangle Italian overseas trade overnight. General Wey-

gand's Middle East Army, with the Turkish and Egyptian armies are further powerful arguments against Mediterranean audacities by Italy.

### Deplorable

The Pakistan idea of Mr. Jinnah seems to have caught the imagination of a very negligible section of the Ceylon Tamils too. "The All Ceylon Aboriginal Inhabitants' Association of Jaffna" wants a separate Government for "Tamil Ceylon" as distinct from 'Sinhalese Ceylon'. This mere idea is regrettable especially when enlightened and progressive opinion in the two communities is trying to settle their differences. What is worse, the Association has demanded from the Governor that the government should be carried on under the constitution in force before 1896!

### Ceylon Congress Executive

One of the conditions of Congress membership is that members cannot belong to any communal organisation. The Ceylon National Congress views the Sinhala Maha Sabha as a communal organisation and its President as a communal politician. At the beginning of the year there was a move to remove Mr. Bandaranayake, the President of the Sabha from the Congress. In fact a resolution was moved on this matter by Dick Jayawardene. No action was taken. Now there is again a move to see that Mr. Bandaranayake owes allegiance either to the Congress or the Sabha, but not to both. If he insists in his present attitude, he will be removed from the Congress Committee. In his place Dr. Saravanamuttu may be put in.

### The Paranthan Scheme

Very soon the Ministry of Agriculture will launch a big agricultural drive at Paranthan, similar to the Minneriya Scheme. All plans are ready and the work will be completed in two and a half years. Each year 2000 acres will be cleared and given in allotments of 10 or 15 acres to colonists mostly from the educated unemployed. The Minister of Agriculture is only waiting for a report from the Government Agent, Jaffna, regarding local conditions and how far the Minneriya Scheme could be altered to suit local conditions. It is hoped that our sympathetic G. A. will expedite this matter and see a beginning is made early.

### Britain's War Cabinet

London, May 11.

The British War Cabinet is officially announced as follows:—

Mr. Winston Churchill—Prime Minister and Minister for Defence.

Mr. Neville Chamberlain—Lord President of the Council.

Mr. G. R. Attlee—Lord Privy Seal.

Lord Halifax—Foreign Minister.

Mr. Arthur Greenwood—Minister Without Portfolio.

The following further appointments are also announced, though not in the War Cabinet:—

Mr. A. V. Alexander—First Lord of the Admiralty.

Mr. Anthony Eden—Secretary for War.

Sir Archibald Sinclair—Secretary for Air.

## HOLLAND, BELGIUM AND LUXEMBURG FALL VICTIMS TO NAZI LUST

### Britain and France Give Swift Help

#### LOW COUNTRIES STAND FIRM AGAINST AGGRESSION

Paris, Friday.

It is stated authoritatively that the British and French armies are giving "formidable help" to the Dutch and Belgian forces. The latest position on the various fronts is:—

(1) The Germans have advanced through Luxembourg towards the French frontier. French and German advance units are reported to be in contact and fighting is proceeding on both sides of the Moselle.

(2) The Belgians have fallen back on their main line of defence in accordance with a pre-arranged plan.

(3) The Dutch plan of demolition and inundation has worked successfully. The main Dutch defence line is along the River Yssel which, it is believed, the Germans have reached only a point ten miles inside the frontier. German parachutists landed at various Dutch aerodromes. Some were wiped out. Operations are in progress to dislodge them from the others.

The figure of 70 German aircraft shot down in Holland today, as reported in a Dutch communiqué, does not appear to be exaggerated. Fifteen were brought down at Blythwyk, three above the Schiphol aerodrome and about eight over the Hilversum district, according to reports from reliable witnesses.

The fury of the Nazis has now fallen on the Low Countries and Luxembourg and Holland Belgium were invaded this morning. Dutch Army headquarters announce that German troops suddenly crossed the Dutch frontier at three this morning. Holland and Belgium have invoked the aid of the Allies and assistance is being sent immediately by Britain and France. In the meantime, the Dutch and the Belgians are resisting gallantly.

The invasion followed the handing of memorandums, tantamount to ultimatums, stating that the German Government had proof that a British and French attack against Germany was imminent and would be carried out through Dutch, Belgian and Luxembourg territory. The Reich Government, therefore, gave orders that the neutrality of the three countries must be safeguarded by all means and that the threatened Allied attack must be counteracted.

The first warning Belgium had of hostilities in Holland was the wail of air-raid alarms, the roar of anti-aircraft guns and the rattle of machine-gun fire at a distance from Brussels.

Dutch headquarters state that aerial attacks were attempted on several Dutch aerodromes. The Army and anti-aircraft forces were ready for them. The Dutch author-

ities have flooded various regions in order to hold up the German advance. Anti-aircraft guns are in action. So far, over half-a-dozen German planes have been brought down.

#### Attempt to Capture Dutch Queen

New York, Friday.

An attempt by the German air force to capture Queen Wilhelmina early this morning is described by the Columbia Broadcasting Company's Amsterdam correspondent.

He states that at least 16 large Junker aeroplanes landed at the Valkenburg airport, near the Queen's summer villa at Ruygenhoek, each carrying at least 20 soldiers armed with automatic rifles and machine-guns. Other would-be aerial kidnappers landed at Delft. Their plan was to cut off the Hague, if only for a few hours, from the remainder of the country and to capture the Queen and the Government. Describing how he encountered a pitched battle on the outskirts of Valkenburg, the correspondent says that hundreds of Dutch soldiers, armed with automatic rifles and machine-guns, were sent out in high-powered cars, while snipers, using tracer bullets, set on fire a number of German planes. It is believed that a number of the would-be kidnappers were killed.

The correspondent adds: "From what I saw, the Dutch mobile defence is effectively handling this new type of 'hitlerkrieg'."

#### Tamil Shylock

Mannar, Thursday.

The Jaffna Sangectha Abibiruthi Sabha, a band of amateurs, staged "The Merchant of Venice" in Tamil in aid of local charity, at St. Xavier's College Hall, Mannar, under the patronage of Mr. W. D. Ganarathne, A. G. A.

The hall was packed and first-class entertainment was provided. The acting was generally good and special mention must be made of Mr. Chornalingam, the noted Tamil playwright and actor who portrayed Shylock admirably.

#### Indian Muscian in Jaffna

Mrs. Lalita Venkatram the All-India Radio Star arrived in Jaffna, yesterday morning from Bombay. She will give a series of recitals at the Jaffna Hindu College Hall, during the All-Ceylon Industrial Exhibition and Carnival.

## A Current Commentary

### The Language Problem

By S. A. P.

THE Ceylon National Congress has an ambitious programme which is somewhat revolutionary in character. One of its aims is to make Sinhalese and Tamil as official languages and that means the business of the Government is to be carried through them.

At the last annual session of the Congress, a resolution to the effect that immediate steps should be taken to introduce Sinhalese and Tamil as official languages was passed. Another resolution passed by the Congress asked that the languages of the courts from the lowest to the highest should be Sinhalese and Tamil.

It is reported that the matter was referred to the Chief Secretary, who has stated that as matters stood at present it was not possible to give effect to these resolutions. It is also well-known that the bar councils throughout the Island are opposed to making Sinhalese and Tamil as languages of the Courts.

The reason advanced by the Chief Secretary against this change is that the government servants are not proficient in both languages. We have to blame the present educational system for this state of affairs. In most of the English schools—and Government servants are drawn from these schools—the medium of instruction from the Kindergarten to the highest class is English and the mother tongue though now taught as a second language is taught indifferently.

Though the want of proficiency in the languages of the country is the reason publicly stated, yet there is also a psychological reason for the opposition. Many of our Sinhalese and Tamil Civil Servants and Judges, though they are able to converse in their mother tongue, do not like to talk to the people in that language for fear of losing caste. There was once a Tamil Government Agent in charge of a Tamil province. At an inquiry, the people who were present tried to speak to him directly in Tamil but they were promptly reminded of the presence of the interpreter.

#### The Future

It is a good thing that the Ceylon National Congress has taken up this question but it should not be deterred by the reply of the Chief Secretary. It should see that a time limit is set up within which necessary steps should be taken to make the change possible. Again it should see that Sinhalese and Tamil are introduced into all schools with the least possible delay. Further a good knowledge of the mother tongue, and not of Latin should be demanded from all those who seek entrance into the Law College.

#### Latin

The insistence on a knowledge of Latin from those who seek en-

## Cabinet Reshuffle

### Some Probable Changes

The great concern felt over the lack of energy with which Britain's war effort is being prosecuted was shown when Mr. Chamberlain's Government sustained what is tantamount to a moral defeat.

The Labour Party forced the issue by deciding to have a division on the Government's motion for adjournment as a challenge to the Ministry. The Liberals and other Opposition parties joined them, while 40 Conservatives voted against the Government and 130 abstained from voting. The Government motion was carried by 281 to 200 votes in a House that normally has 615 members.

The debate was kept at a high standard, a feature being the stress laid by Mr. Winston Churchill, the First Lord of the Admiralty, on the need for securing air superiority over the enemy. Until that was secured, he said, it would not be possible to take the initiative with that determination and vigour which was essential for victory.

Reuter's Parliamentary Correspondent understands that the Premier will remain in office, but that reconstruction of the Cabinet is highly probable, following tonight's vote. Another approach may be made to the Opposition to join the Government, but it is practically certain that they will refuse.

The smallness of the Government majority exceeded the most sanguine hopes of critics, and, immediately the figures were announced, there were surprises and delighted cries of: "Resign" and a counter-demonstration from the Government supporters.

Over 40 Government supporters voted with the Opposition. One hundred and thirty Government supporters abstained. Thirty were ill, some are serving abroad, and others were absent for different causes.

It is quite certain that a strengthening of the national effort will result from the vote. Any changes made will be effected without disturbing the course of the Government or the conduct of the war. The Government supporters, who voted with the Opposition included Mr. Alfred Duff-Cooper, Mr. L. S. Amery, Mr. Leslie Hore-Belisha, Admiral Sir Roger Keyes, Lord Wolmer and Lady Astor.

Entrance into the Law College is the greatest bar to the progress of our languages. One cannot understand why a knowledge of Latin is necessary for Law students. India has produced many Jurists and Advocates of world-wide fame but no Law College in India demands from its students a knowledge of Latin. It is high time in Ceylon too snobbery gave way to common sense in this matter.

## Relief to Debtors

### New Bill to be Introduced

A bill to grant temporary relief to owners whose lands are under mortgage by providing that the mortgagee shall not commence or continue any hypothecary action for the recovery of the money lent on a mortgage except with the leave of Court, will shortly be introduced in the State Council by the Minister of Labour.

It provides that no decree entered in any hypothecary action shall be enforced by a judicial sale of the mortgaged property except with the leave of Court. The expression "Court" is defined to mean the Court which would ordinarily have jurisdiction to entertain a suit on a mortgage bond.

The circumstances in which the Court will refuse to grant permission for the institution of a mortgage action are prescribed. Where the default of the mortgagor is non-payment of the mortgage money, leave will not be granted so long as interest is paid by the mortgagor at the rate stipulated in the bond within such time as the Court may allow for such payment.

The bill also prescribes the circumstances to be considered by the Court before granting leave to institute a mortgage action. Inter alia, the Court has to take into account the effect of the continuance of the mortgage on the security of the mortgagee.

The existing powers of the Court to enter instalment decrees and to modify the form of its decree so as best to secure the grant of equitable relief are amplified and the Court is also empowered to appoint a manager or receiver for the purpose of administering any mortgaged land so as best to conserve the property and the income derivable therefrom.

The order of the Court granting equitable relief under the new law will be final and no appeal will lie therefrom to the Supreme Court.

A mortgagor may, by writing witnessed by a proctor consent to waive any benefit to which he may be entitled under the new law. The proctor, however, will have to certify that he advised his client to consent to such waiver. Similarly, it will be possible to contract out of the provisions of the new law in any mortgage bond executed after such law comes into operation.

## Unemployment Exchange in Jaffna

### Supplementary Estimates

A resolution seeking authority for the expenditure of Rs. 25,000 from the Rs. 245,000 set apart for radio development in the 1937 Loan Ordinance has been placed on the State Council Agenda for next week.

Major J. L. Kotelawala, Minister of Communications and Works, who will move the resolution, states that this money will be spent on providing a short wave telegraph transmitter and receiver in order to establish a wireless service between Colombo and Rangoon.

The new service will eliminate delays in the Burma-Ceylon traffic and reduce the load of traffic on the Indo-Ceylon cable route thereby eliminating delays on other telegraphic traffic to Madras which is occasionally subject to much delay. Rapid communication with Burma, he adds, is of added importance considering it is the source of our food supplies.

Among the other loan resolutions to be moved in the State Council by the Ministers are:—

Rs. 99,675 (Minister of Agriculture and Lands) for the first stage of the Ridi Bendi—Ela scheme, N. W. P.

Rs. 4,500 (Minister of Local Administration) for a water scheme for the sanitary board town of Padiyapellella.

Rs. 45,000 (Minister of Communications and Works) for rail connexion due to the shifting of the Railway Coal grounds.

Rs. 100,000 (Minister of Communications and Works) for the construction of a new bridge on the 6th mile on the Colombo-Cotta Road.

There are 38 supplementary estimates on the agenda Chief among them are:—

Rs. 100,000 to meet the cost of acquisition of land for the R.A.F., Rs. 8,000 for industrial investigation, experiment and research, Rs. 3,000 for the establishment of Employment Exchanges in Kandy Galle and Jaffna and Rs. 57,000 for the completion of the building for the headquarters of the new Anti Aircraft Regiment, Colombo.

## Mr. Lloyd George—A Penpicture

(Continued from page 1)

strength in speech and debate "The penguins of the city." How it all fuses to suggest what he wanted to convey—black and white fatuity waddling before the nation on the road to the economic collapse of 1931. The satire has been cruel, it has also been playful, probably more playful than cruel. But it has never had any Swift-like savagery in it.

Savage satire also depends, like the highest oratory, on depths of moral feeling, and that, as has been said, has not been his to command. This explains why Mr. Lloyd George remains so popular with all parties in the House of Commons except for a remnant of rabid detractors whom he has crossed at some time in his long career.

He has also been the master tactician before an audience, whether in the House of Commons or outside. The artist in him craves sympathy from his hearers, and yet he has had to meet more hostility than sympathy in these predominantly Tory Parliaments since the war. He has had to try to neutralise this hostility. Sometimes he has even converted it into positive. Whenever he has snatched indulgence out of the jaws of disfavour, he has been inevitably set for triumph. There was an example a few days ago when single-handed he destroyed all confidence in the Government's measures for food production. Here was the master to be observed. Had he attacked the whole Government, the Tories would have recoiled with suspicion from him. They are as convinced as Mr. Lloyd George that the Government has failed to make the best of our food-producing resources; nevertheless, they are going to become nobody's accomplices, certainly not Mr. Lloyd George's, in upsetting the Government. So he set about dividing in order to conquer. He praised the Minister of Agriculture as the man who wanted to do the big thing. Why, then, did not he do it? Why? Because there was the dead hand of the cheeseparing Treasury, in other words, Sir John Simon, digging for victory with Treasury scissors. And the Tories rose to him like a Roman mob.

"An Eye for a Subject" Why had they not seen before that the villain of the piece was this ex-Liberal Chancellor of the Exchequer withholding (again how like a Roman mob) public money from agriculture? It was

## Protest Against Assessment

"It is my firm conviction that the co-operative movement initiated by this Sangam is the best remedy for the economic ills of Karayur", said the Very Rev. Fr. P. M. Francis, who presided at the general meeting of the Karayur Akkiya Sevai Maha Sangam, held at St. James' School hall.

Mr. M. Francis Ponnau said that the Seva Sangam was about to open a co-operative stores the success of which depended entirely on the patronage extended to it by the inhabitants of Karayur.

Mr. P. M. Johnpillai, referring to the vexed question of increased taxation imposed by the the Jaffna Urban Council, said that owing to the precarious state of the fishing industry hundreds of families in Karayur were in abject misery. He moved the following resolution which was seconded by Mooper M. Rajendram and carried unanimously: "The Sangam protests most emphatically against the abnormal increase in the assessment tax and calls upon the members of the Jaffna Urban Council to withdraw the enforcement of the new rates in view of the increased cost of living due to the present War."

Mr. Lloyd George's best day for years. For something like an hour, he seemed to be leading the Tory party. They just wakened up from his seductive pipings in time for the division. But let it not be forgotten that Mr. Lloyd George wanted to make them captive not to adorn a personal triumph of his own but because he profoundly believes that the Government's mishandling of agriculture may lose us the war.

There is much more that could be said about Mr. Lloyd George the Parliamentarian, but there is only space to add this. Those who have heard much of him in the House of Commons will agree that when he takes up any theme, whether domestic or foreign, it suddenly develops an amplitude it has lacked before. He has an eye for a subject in all its relations—the Napoleonic *coup d'oeil*,—and he takes the House of Commons up from the plain, so to speak, to a commanding view of it. He does not speak about one corner of the field. He sees the landscape whole. Parochialism he leaves to others. He is not the last of the Titans, but he has over-topped all his contemporaries in political life for more than a generation, excluding, but that only recently, Mr. Churchill, who with the new war is coming into large renown.

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Y. 48, 1-11-39--31-10-40 (M)

### SALE OF TODDY RENTS 1940-41, MULLAITTIVU DISTRICT.

Notice is hereby given that the Assistant Government Agent Mullaittivu, will receive sealed tenders for the purchase, subject to Toddy Rent Sale Conditions published in Government Gazette No. 3606 of April 26, 1940 and the General Conditions applicable to all Excise Licenses, of the executive privilege of selling fermented toddy by retail in the undermentioned taverns during the period 1st July 1940 to 30th June, 1941.

2. For further particulars see Government Gazette No. of 10th May, 1940.  
3. The Conditions of sale and any other required information can be obtained at the Vavuniya Kachcheri.  
The Kachcheri,  
Vavuniya, 7th May, 1940.

S. NAVARETNAM,  
Assistant Government Agent.

### List of Taverns referred to:—

No.	Division.	Local Area.	Date and Time of closing Tender.	Place.
1.	Maritime Pattus	Vadduvakalin	May 27th, 1940, 9-30 a.m.	Mullaittivu Residency.
3.	-do-	Puthumathalan	-do- 9-40 a.m.	
4.	-do-	Puthukkudiruppu	-do- 9 50 a.m.	
5.	-do-	Vattapalai	-do- 10-00 a.m.	
7.	-do-	Chillavattai	-do- 10-10 a.m.	
8.	Vavuniya North	Kachchilamadu	-do- 10-20 a.m.	Vavuniya Kachcheri.
11.	Vavuniya Sanitary Board Town.	Within the Sanitary Board Town of Vavuniya.	25th, 1940, 9-30 a.m.	

[G. 4. 13-5-40.]

## Mr. Churchill—at The Helm

### New Cabinet

London, Friday.

It is officially announced that Mr. Neville Chamberlain resigned the office of Prime Minister this evening and that Mr. Winston Churchill has accepted the King's invitation to fill the position.

The new Prime Minister desires that all the Ministers should remain at their posts and discharge their functions with full freedom and responsibility while the necessary arrangements for the formation of a new administration are made.

Mr. Chamberlain saw the King at 6 p.m. and remained for about half an-hour. Mr. Churchill arrived shortly afterwards and was with the King until 7.15.

Political circles will not be surprised if Mr. Chamberlain is given the Chancellorship of the Exchequer with the leadership of the House of Commons, leaving Mr. Churchill free from Parliamentary duties, except on supreme occasions. Sir John Simon may go to the House of Lords.

### Naval Superiority Over Bombers

In an interview with an Italian journalist, Admiral Sir Roger Keyes, Admiral of the Fleet, said that the occupation of Narvik by the British was not merely very important from the military view-point, but also because it meant the complete cessation of the transport of vital ore supplies to Germany from that port.

The recent action between ships and aeroplanes, he added, had proved conclusively that big units of the Fleet have nothing to fear against even the largest bombers.

"I can assure you in a most emphatic way," added Sir Roger, "that H.M.S. Rodney has not suffered at all through the huge bomb which hit her. The ship is in perfect navigating condition and this shows that her protection enables her to defy any menace from the air."

### First Appeal

An application has been filed for leave to appeal to the Court of Criminal Appeal against the verdict of the jury in a case recently concluded at the Kandy Assizes

## Shops Act

### Protest by Employees

Workers in eating houses and restaurants in Colombo of all creeds and nationalities gathered in the Oldcott Hall, Norris Road Pettah, last night, in reply to the meeting of the proprietors of these establishments who on Monday met at this same spot and decided to protest against certain provisions of the Shop Act calculated to better the conditions of the workers.

Dr. S. A. Wickremasingha presided and the meeting which began shortly after 9 p.m. concluded after midnight. An attempt to break up the meeting was made by a rowdy who succeeded in eluding his pursuers.

The chairman, after stating that an attempt had been made to keep him away from the meeting by a telegram which informed him that the meeting had been postponed, and attributing the same reason for the absence of Mr. D. M. Rajapakse M. S. C., urged the hotel workers to unite to obtain better conditions of employment.

Bhikku Udakandawela Saranankara said that this was the most opportune time to "strike the iron".

Mr. K. Ramanathan, an Indian dwelt on the "dog's life" of the hotel workers on whom the proprietors fattened.

Resolutions were passed supporting the eight hour working day one-and-half days off every week and the annual 14 days leave proposed under the Shops Act; forming those present into a hotel workers' union; and urging the government to introduce a minimum wage ordinance for hotel workers at an early date.

The speakers were Messrs. A. Gunasekera, I. M. Ibrahim, Sugata-dasa David Hettiaratchi, Cecilia Costa Piyadsena and A. Ragavan.

before the Acting Chief Justice.

The case is one in which G. B. Sivadoris Hamy had been convicted of unlawful assembly, robbery and causing hurt, and sentenced to 12 years' rigorous imprisonment.

This is the first application to be filed since the institution of the Court of Criminal Appeal and it will be heard before a single Judge. If the application is granted the appeal will come on in due course before three Judges.

The leave of Court is sought in the first instance as the appeal is purely on a question of fact.

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## Swift Allied Help

### Allies in Belgium

London, Friday.

Responding to the Belgian appeal for help, British and French troops have marched into Belgium, says Reuter's Special Correspondent with the B. E. F.

Ever since the international barriers were lowered this morning, khaki-clad columns have been moving with smooth efficiency towards the east. Crowds of civilians greeted the troops with evident joy, pelting them with flowers and running alongside the troop transport lorries and offering the men bottles of beer. As they moved off, the men waved heartily to the French people who turned up their thumbs to indicate that all's well with the British army.

The suddenness of the German on-slaught has certainly not caught the army napping. The arrival of the B. E. F. at the Belgian frontier was an impressive sight. Long columns of lorries, tanks, armoured-cars, motor-cars and motor-cycles moved forward in a steady stream. The men looked bronzed, fit and ready for anything.

The call to action has undoubtedly proved a psychological tonic to

the troops who had been kept on the alert since the war began.

Under almost a cloudless blue sky, British troops have gone quickly and efficiently to help their new ally. Belgian civilians in gratitude lined the roadsides, raised their hats and cheered, while women blew kisses to the passing soldiers.

The British Government announces: "His Majesty's Government and the French Government are taking immediate steps to come to the assistance of Holland and Belgium with all the means at their command.

"At the same time, it must be recognised, that, once again, Germany has gained the military advantage by taking the initiative in attacking neutral countries. The Germans have attempted to justify this act of aggression by alleging that Holland and Belgium have not preserved their neutrality. This allegation is, of course, completely false. On the contrary, as it is well known, both Holland and Belgium deliberately elected to pursue a policy of the strictest neutrality, and have consistently declined even to concert with the Allies military means for their defence.

"Nevertheless, the Allies, who have taken all possible means to provide for this eventuality in case of need, are now putting them into effect with the greatest speed."

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[Mis. 242. 4-1-40 to 31-5-40]

## THE SLEEP OF THE JUST

(Continued from page 1)

Disraeli, though a sound sleeper, often pretended to sleep in the House of Commons when, with arms folded and hat tilted far over his closed eyes, he listened to the debate around him. Lord North was another politician who was often taunted by his opponents for sleeping through their speeches. "Asleep!" he exclaimed on one occasion. "I wish to God I were!"

Soldiers are generally good sleepers. A classic example, of course, is Napoleon, who had one curious idiosyncrasy; he could never sleep if he were exposed to the light. Caesar, like Napoleon, could sleep anywhere in his litter, or his chariot or his bed. Marshal Ney, one of Napoleon's greatest generals, often called "the bravest of the brave," slept soundly the whole night through before he was roused to face the firing party which executed him.

There are, of course, many famous men who can do entirely without sleep. The best known example is that of General

Pichegru, a soldier of the French Revolution, who once told an English friend that, during a whole year's campaigning, he had never slept more than one hour in the twenty-four. That seems hard to believe.

Among the heartiest sleepers was Sir Robert Walpole, who was also a hearty eater and drinker. "When I cast off my clothes," he said, "I cast off my cares."

The late Lord Balfour was another who dismissed politics from his bed and turned his mind towards metaphysics, which was his real love. John Bright the famous orator, used to think out his speeches in bed and, as his speeches were very long, his sleep on these occasions must have been very short!

Brougham, the great Lord Chancellor, once set up a record in somnolence. After the exhausting speech at the trial of Queen Caroline, he went home and gave strict instructions that he should not be disturbed. He was not seen for almost two whole days, for he had slept the clock around four times and thereby escaped a breakdown.

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